

BLACK DIAMOND  
WESTERN

GIANT CASH CONTEST-22 PRIZES-see inside!

AUTHORIZED  
A. C. M. P.

CONFORMS  
to the  
COMICS  
CODE



10¢

# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

PDC

NOV.  
NO. 40

LEV GLEASON, PUB., CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

3

FEATURE-LENGTH  
BLACK DIAMOND  
ILLUSTORIES

RELEASE THAT MAN  
AND TAKE THOSE  
HOODS OFF,  
YOU PIGS!

HE'S HIT  
OUR GUNS!  
RUN HIM  
DOWN!







WEB COMIC  
UNIVERSE.COM



# LOOK!

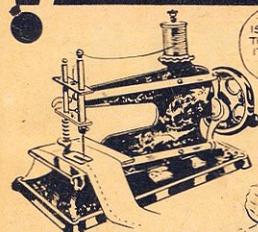
## AT THESE 4 WONDER BARGAINS

### ELECTRIC MOVIE PROJECTOR

**REAL  
LIVE ACTION MOVIES!**  
HERE'S WHAT YOU GET... A  
REAL PROJECTOR, 1 FILM,  
A STAGE AND SCREEN...



### 3 REAL SEWING MACHINE



**READY FOR ACTION**  
NOW YOU CAN MAKE MANY  
LOVELY DRESSES FOR YOURSELF  
AND YOUR DOLLS, OR MAKE EXTRA  
MONEY SELLING THINGS YOU  
MAKE! COMPLETE WITH TABLE  
CLAMP, SPOOL, THREAD  
AND NEEDLE.



### 2 "HAPPY" THE COWBOY

- HE'S OVER 19" TALL!
- MOVES HIS MOUTH, ARMS AND LEGS!
- REAL COWBOY OUTFIT!

HEY KIDS — HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO BECOME A MASTER VENTRILOQUIST—IN A JIFFY! IMAGINE — YOU CAN MAKE HAPPY THE COWBOY ACTUALLY TALK! IN YOUR OWN VOICE OF COURSE! PULL THE STRING IN THE BACK OF HIS HEAD — WATCH HIS LIPS MOVE — HEAR YOUR OWN WORDS COMING RIGHT OUT OF HAPPY'S MOUTH! SEE HOW REAL HE LOOKS—RIGGED UP IN A COWBOY HAT, WASHABLE PLaid SHIRT AND WESTERN PANTS! SHOW OFF YOUR SKILL AT PARTIES — AT SCHOOL!



### 4 LIFE LIKE SANDY

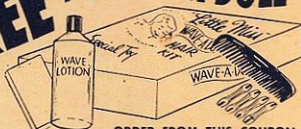


**THE NEWEST IN  
NEAR-HUMAN DOLLS**

SHE HAS  
WONDER SKIN — JUST  
LIKE A REAL BABY'S... LIFE-  
LIKE HAIR! SHE CAN DRINK,  
WET, SLEEP, AND HAVE HER  
HAIR WAVED!

IMAGINE ONLY **\$398**

and  
**FREE** A WAVE-A-DOLL HAIR KIT



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59 East 8th St., New York 3, N.Y.

Gentlemen: Please send me the following:

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- ☐ Movie Projector **\$2.98** ☐ Sewing Machine **\$2.98**
- ☐ 3 Extra Films... \$1.00
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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

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## BLACK DIAMOND

and "THE KILL-BENT BROTHERS"

LEAD PAULSON, MURDEROUS DESPERADO SLATED FOR THE HANGMAN'S NOOSE, HAD VOWED SOLEMNLY TO ESCAPE THE GALLOWS AND TO KILL BLACK DIAMOND—THE MAN WHO HAD CAPTURED HIM! WITH THE HELP OF HIS EQUALLY MURDEROUS BROTHER, RIP PAULSON, THE CHANCES SEEMED EXCELLENT THAT LEAD'S BOAST WOULD COME TRUE!

CUT OUT AND SAVE!



SEE VALUABLE TRADING CARD OFFER FOLLOWING THIS STORY. SEND THIS WITH YOUR ORDER BLANK. 2 COUPONS PLUS 10¢ WILL ENTITLE YOU TO ONE SET OF TRADING CARDS.

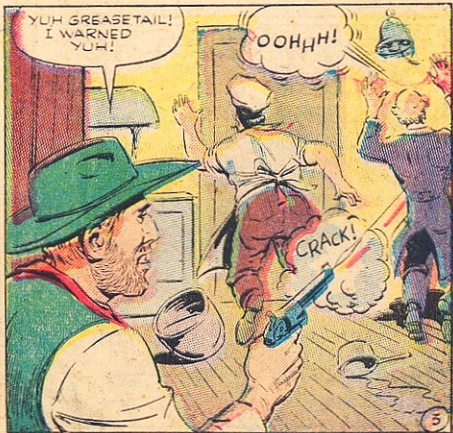




BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

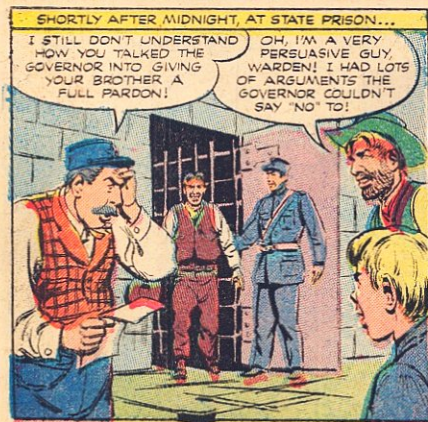








# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN





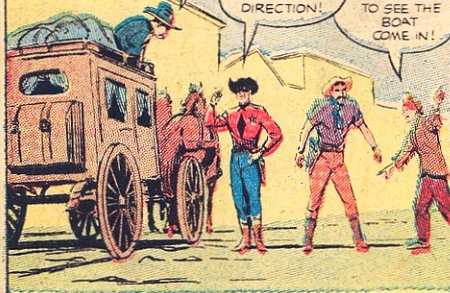
# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE WEST LEARNED THAT LEAD PAULSON WAS LOOSE! TELEGRAPH WIRES HUMMED—ALL STAGE AND PONY EXPRESS RIDERS WERE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE KILLERS...

NOPE, MARSHAL! I AIN'T SEEN ANYONE THAT ANSWERS TO THAT DESCRIPTION!

KEEP AN EYE OUT, JIM! THEY'RE SURE TO BE HEADED IN THIS DIRECTION!

THERE GOES THE BOAT WHISTLE, BUMPER! I'M GOING TO SEE THE BOAT COME IN!



RED FIRES JUST A KID AFTER ALL! LOOK AT HIM GO! JUST TO SEE THE RIVER BOAT COME IN!

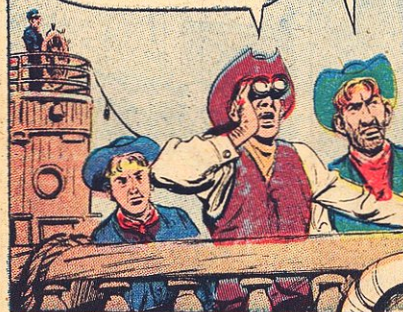
THAT'S IT! THE ONE MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION WE NEVER THOUGHT OF! LET'S GET DOWN TO THE DOCK BUMPER!



MOMENTS LATER, ABOARD THE RIVERBOAT...

IT'S A GOOD THING I CHECKED THE DOCK BEFORE WE LANDED! YUH KNOW WHO'S STANDIN' THERE BIG AS LIFE? THE BLACK DIAMOND!

WHAT'LL WE DO, LEAD?



SEE THAT THE BOAT **DON'T** LAND AT THE DOCK! RIP-YOU AND JUNIOR STAND GUARD! I'M TAKIN' OVER THE WHEEL OF THIS TUB!

IT OUGHT TO BE EASY! THERE'S ONLY US AN THE CREW ABOARD! GET GOIN'! WE'RE ALMOST THERE NOW!



CAPTAIN, I'M ONLY GOIN' TO ASK YUH ONCE! AIN'T GOT TIME TO EXPLAIN! TELL YORE STEERSMAN TO BEACH THIS TUB ON THE OPPOSITE SHORE, OR I START SHOOTIN'!

WHAT? THERE'RE ROCKS ON THE WEST SHORE! YOU MUST BE CRAZY TO ASK ME TO DO THAT?



OKAY! YUH HAD YOUR CHANCE TA LIVE AND YUH TOSSED IT AWAY! THAT GOES FER BOTH OF YUH!

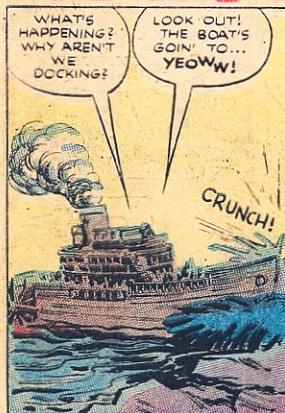
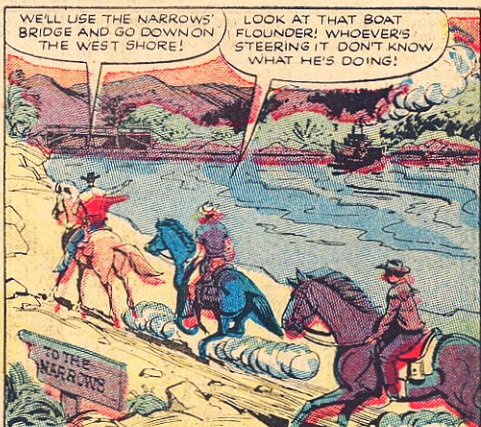
WHOOOO

OOOO

THIS WHISTLE BLOWIN WILL DROWN OUT THE SHOTS!









# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN





# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

SHORTLY AFTER, OUTSIDE THE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, JUNIOR PAULSON OVERHEARS THE BLACK DIAMOND'S PLANS...



**BANCROFT RANCH!** THAT'S THE OTHER SIDE OF TWIN PASS CANYON! THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA! I'M GONNA TELL POP!



MINUTES LATER, ON THE TWIN PASS CANYON TRAIL...

YEP! THAT'S PERFECT! THEM ROCKS ON THE TIP WILL MAKE A NATURAL ANV LAUNCE AT ABOUT NINE TONIGHT! IT'LL GIT BLACK DIAMOND AN' THAT DAD—BURNED RED FIRE, TOO!



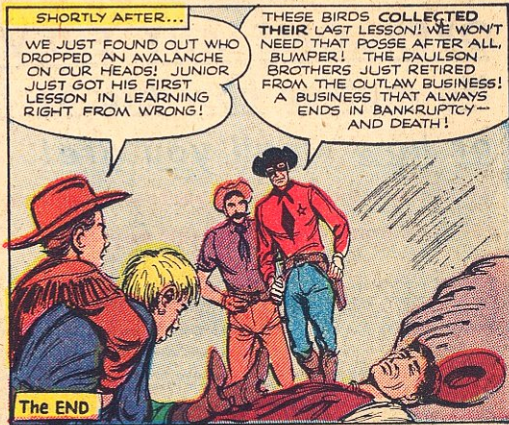
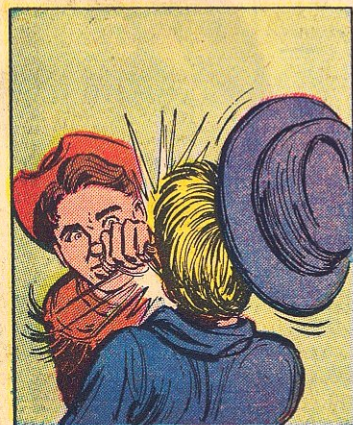
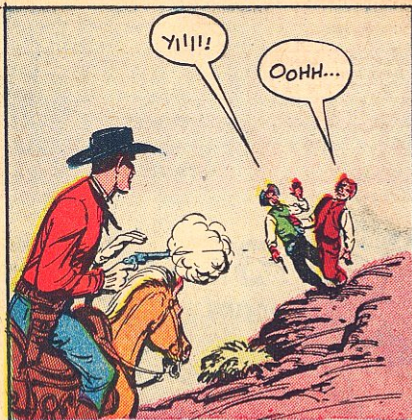
IN LEAD PAULSON'S HIDEOUT...LATER...



AT 8:45 THAT NIGHT...







The END

**OLD COINS WANTED**  
We buy Indianhead pennies and all rare U. S. coins.  
Complete all-coin catalogue 20c.  
Jack Fairview, 277 Broadway, New York 7

**BE A VENTRILOQUIST**  
Amuse everyone and enjoy yourself through the study of Ventriloquism.  
**VENTRILOQUISM SELFTAUGHT** — complete book 25c.  
Greg Greenwood, 273 Broadway, N. Y. C. 7

### Tricku VANISHING CARD

A SENSATIONAL TRICK that makes a magician of YOU! A Card is free ly Shown, yet disappears from hand to reappear in spectator's pocket. **ITS FREE!** If you send us 25¢ Coin or stamps for our "BIG Catalogue of 400 Illustrated Tricks." **The MAGICIAN'S LG**  
2465 WASHINGTON ST. PHILADELPHIA 25 PA.

### 33 ARMY PATCHES

Collar ornaments, campaign ribbons plus introductory surprise ONLY \$1.00. Prices 10c.  
**BOBBYGUILD, STA "A" BOX 71 BKLYN, N.Y.**

# WALKIE TALKIES

POWERED BY ORIGINAL REMCO ELECTRO-MAGNETIC CHASSIS, U. S. PATENT NO. 2,338,178

**TWO-WAY WALKIE TALKIES**

**RADIO RECEIVER AND INTERPHONE**

**TWO-WAY COMMUNICATIONS:** Set consists of TWO (2) "Transceivers" ready to hook up between any two points. No license needed! Powered by new patented Remco electro-magnetic chassis. Practical, foolproof operation is guaranteed.

**RADIO BROADCASTING**

**BROADCAST OVER HOME RADIO:** Either or both of your Walkie Talkies can be hooked up so you can talk into them and hear your voice come out of the radio speaker. "Broadcast" from another room or another part of the house. Mix with your friends — plan your own radio programs and announcements.

**RECEIVE LOCAL BROADCAST STATIONS:** Your Walkie Talkies can easily be converted to the broadcast hand and thus serve as your own private radio receiver. The REMCO plug-in crystal adapter and special aerial attachment will permit reception on broadcast frequencies. Adapter and aerial attachment only \$1.98. (Optional)

Sets are ruggedly constructed of high quality injection molded plastic, engineered for utility and extra long service. This is not a kit but a factory tested and guaranteed communication system. Both sets and radio receiver \$5.47. **Guaranteed—or your money refunded in full.**

750-847  
**WALKIE TALKIES**  
only  
**\$3.49**  
per set  
complete

**EMPIRE MDSC. CO. Dept. W8, 63 CENTRAL AVE. OSSINING, N. Y.**



# When You Have To Defend Yourself Do What The EXPERTS Do! USE THEIR 3-POWER SYSTEM

**1**  
JIU-JITSU



**2**  
WRESTLING



**3**  
BOXING



**OVERCOME ANY ENEMY —**  
**No matter how big he is**  
**or how small you are!**

**NOW—discover from experts—this quick, easy way**  
**how you can defend yourself anywhere — anytime!**

**H**ERE'S every science of self-defense and lethal attack, wrapped up into one triple-action package. This new fast-moving 3-power system will make you tough to conquer, or it doesn't cost you a cent. You don't need muscles! You don't have to be big! You just have to know how!

**You'll Gain**  
**Respect for**  
**Manliness**

**Like Getting**  
**Personal**  
**Instruction**

**Act Now,**  
**Be Prepared**

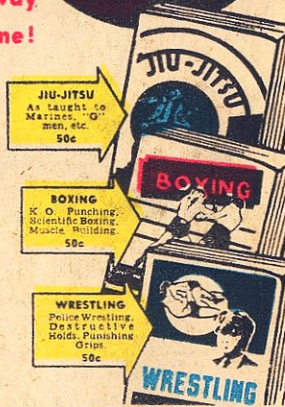
In every dynamite-packed page, experts teach you through pictures and stories. How you can K.O. your enemy with one clean scientific wallop! How to master him with punishing, bruising, wrestling holds! How to use his strength to destroy himself through deadly Jiu-Jitsu.

Never again cringe or shy away from a bully. Imagine the wonderful thrill of confidence that nobody can push you around. Think of the respect others will have for you, the safety they'll feel being with you, when they find out what a rough and ready scrapping, deadly-efficient he-man you can be.

You learn quickly and easily through our amazing new "slow-motion picture" method. You learn every stance, every hold, every grip as portrayed by our experts. It's just like getting personal instruction in your own home. But you don't pay the price of personal instruction. The experts who prepared these instructions want everyone to know how to defend himself. They want to make a "big man" of every small one. So the price was made so low that everyone could afford to have these instructions. Yes, you can't afford to be without them.

We want you to have all three books containing the 3-Power System. We want you to be able to defend yourself against any attacker, no matter how he fights. Therefore, we'll send you all 3 books for the price of only 2 if you act now!

**ONLY**  
**\$1.00**  
**FOR ALL THREE**  
If bought separately,  
each 50¢



**JIU-JITSU**  
As Taught to  
Marines, "G.I."  
men, etc.  
50¢

**BOXING**  
K.O. Punching;  
Scientific Boxing;  
Muscle Building  
50¢

**WRESTLING**  
Police Wrestling;  
Destructive  
Holds, Punishing  
Grips  
50¢

**SEND NO MONEY**

Make us prove our claims. Send no money, unless you prefer. When the postman delivers your package, deposit only \$1.00 plus postage and C.O.D. charges. You must be completely convinced after five days, or return the books and your money will be refunded. Don't wait until trouble strikes. Prepare NOW.

PICKWICK CO., Box 463, Midtown Station  
New York 18, N. Y.

**RUSH COUPON TODAY!**

PICKWICK CO., Dept. CM-2204

Box 463, Midtown Station, New York 18, N. Y.

Rush me a copy of

☐ Jiu-Jitsu—50¢ ☐ Scientific Boxing—50¢ ☐ Wrestling—50¢

(If you check two books, we will send you the third without additional charge.)

☐ Enclosed find \$

Please send the books all charges

prepaid.

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay on delivery, plus postage and C.O.D.

charges. (No C.O.D. for less than \$1.00.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

It is understood that if I am not satisfied I can return the books within 5 days for immediate refund of full purchase price.

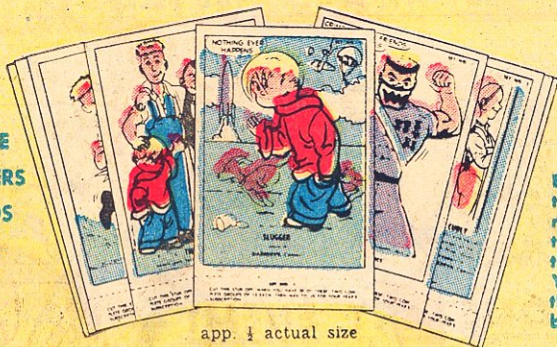
No C.O.D. to APO, FPO, or outside U.S.A.



# THE HIT OF THE YEAR

LEV GLEASON COMICS PICTURE TRADING CARDS

YOUR  
FAVORITE  
CHARACTERS  
ON CARDS  
IN FULL  
COLOR!



app. 1 actual size

**QUICK!  
START YOUR  
COLLECTION  
NOW!**

Everybody wants these cards. Decorate your room, trade them, give them to friends. Your set will be the envy of everybody you know!

**HERE'S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO TO GET ANY SET YOU WANT!** You will find a special trading card coupon on the top of the first page of this magazine. Until further notice these coupons will be found in all of the following Lev Gleason Comics: **CRIME DOES NOT PAY, BOY, CRIME & PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL and BLACK DIAMOND.**

Just send us **TWO** of these coupons, with 10¢ (no stamps, please) and we will send you any set of trading cards you want. You can pick your own sets. They are listed in the box below. And you can order as many sets as you like. Just remember to send two coupons and 10¢ for each set. There are 5 sets in all. Get all of them and have the best collection yourself!

THIS IS A SAMPLE OF THE COUPON YOU NEED TO GET YOUR TRADING CARDS. YOU WILL FIND IT ON THE FIRST INSIDE PAGE OF EACH MAGAZINE. THIS SAMPLE COUPON HAS NO VALUE. DON'T USE IT.



SAMPLE COUPON

**NOTE:** When you send your coupons and 10¢, paste the coupons on a post card or attach them to the handy order blank at the right. You will find the coupons on the front page of any of the Lev Gleason Comics mentioned above (**CRIME DOES NOT PAY, BOY, CRIME & PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL and BLACK DIAMOND**).

Order your set by number. Be sure to print your name and address plainly and mail to:

**PICTURE SET DIVISION,  
Lev Gleason Publications**

114 E. 32nd St.  
New York, 16, N. Y.

## HERE ARE THE SETS

### Order By Number

When you send your coupons, choose the set or sets you want. Order them by number — but each set is **COMPLETE** and cards in each set **CANNOT** be changed. Order more sets as you want more cards.

**SET NO. 1 SET NO. 3**

**SLUGGER** **ROCKY X**  
**GRUESOME JONES** (of the Racketeers)  
**IRON JAW** **BUMPER**

**SET NO. 2 SET NO. 4**

**WISE GUYS GROUP** **SCARECROW**  
**CRIMEBUSTER** **SIMPY SMITH**  
**AND SQUEEKS** **DILLY DUNCAN**  
**RELIAPON**

**SET NO. 5**

**BLACK DIAMOND and RELIAPON**  
**SQUEEKS**  
**THE VACUUM**

### ORDER BLANK

**PICTURE SET DIVISION,  
LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC.**

114 E. 32nd Street, Send cash, check  
New York 16, N. Y. or money order. No  
stamps.

Friends:  
Enclosed are \_\_\_\_\_ trading picture coupons cut from Lev Gleason Comics and \_\_\_\_\_.

Please send me the following sets of pictures (2 coupons and 10¢ entitle me to 1 set of 3 pictures).

Set No. 1 ☐ Set No. 2 ☐ Set No. 3 ☐

Set No. 4 ☐ Set No. 5 ☐

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

My address is \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)



# BLACK DIAMOND

in "WHEN THE AXE FELL"

THE LIFE OF AUGUST C. LITTLE AND HIS FAMILY HUNG BY THE LAST THREADS OF ROPE AS EDDIE MCCOON, A MAD DOG CRIMINAL OF THE WEST HACKED WITH GREAT BLOWS OF HIS AXE! THE BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER RUSHED ONTO THE SCENE TO FIND THE AXE RAISED FOR THE LAST BLOW—BUT WERE THEY IN TIME? COULD THEY STOP THE AXE IN MIDAIR? WHAT SUPERHUMAN EFFORT WAS NEEDED TO SAVE THIS INNOCENT FAMILY FROM CERTAIN DOOM...WHEN THE AXE FELL?





# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

AN OMBRE DOESN'T STRIKE GOLD EVERY DAY, SO IT'S PRONTO TO THE ASSAY AND CLAIMS OFFICE! AUGUST LITTLE KNEW HIS MINE WAS RICH, BUT WITHOUT LEGAL SUPPORT, HE HAD NOTHING!



I HOPE NO ONE HEARD MY CRAZY YELLING! I GOT TO GET MY CLAIM STAKED OUT FAST!

LITTLE RODE LIKE A MAN POSSESSED FOR THAT HE WAS! HE ARRIVED AT HIS DESTINATION SAFELY THAT AFTERNOON!



WHOA... JESS!... JESS WILSON, GET OUT YOUR ASSAY TOOLS AND CLAIM PAPERS! I'VE GOT SOME ORE TO SHOW YOU!

WHY, HOWDY, MR. LITTLE!

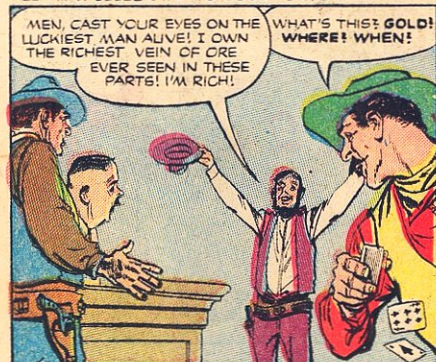
AUGUST LITTLE THREW HIS ORE SACK ON THE TABLE! WILSON CAREFULLY EXAMINED AND COMPARED...



WELL, COME ON, JESS! WHAT'S THE ANSWER? I'M RICH, AIN'T I?

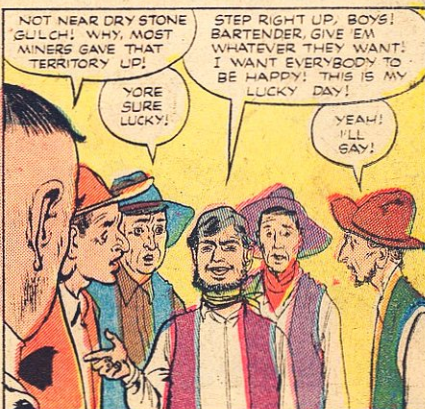
YEP! MR. LITTLE, THIS IS THE RICHEST ORE I'VE SEEN IN THESE PARTS! YES, SIR! I'D SAY THAT YOU ARE, WITHOUT A DOUBT, A VERY RICH MAN!

HIS CLAIM FILED, AUGUST C. LITTLE MADE HASTE TO THE LOCAL SALOON, WHERE HE WOULD FIND FRIENDS TO HELP HIM CELEBRATE HIS GOOD FORTUNE...



MEN, CAST YOUR EYES ON THE LUCKIEST MAN ALIVE! I OWN THE RICHEST VEIN OF ORE EVER SEEN IN THESE PARTS! I'M RICH!

WHAT'S THIS GOLD! WHERE! WHEN!



NOT NEAR DRY STONE GULCH! WHY, MOST MINERS GAVE THAT TERRITORY UP!

YORE SURE LUCKY!

STEP RIGHT UP, BOYS! BARTENDER, GIVE EM WHATEVER THEY WANT! I WANT EVERYBODY TO BE HAPPY! THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY!

YEAH! I'LL SAY!



YESSIR, MEN! EIGHT YEARS I'VE BEEN PLUGGIN' AWAY AT IT! AND NOW I'VE HIT IT! WHY, DO YOU KNOW I'VE GOT A LITTLE GIRL I HAVEN'T SEEN SINCE SHE WAS A BABY... AND MY WIFE... **BARTENDER! ANOTHER ROUND! WE MUST DRINK TO MRS. LITTLE AND MY LOVELY DAUGHTER!**

COMIN' UP, MR. LITTLE!



BUT NOT ALL THE MEN IN THE BAR JOINED AUGUST C. LITTLE IN HIS CELEBRATION PARTY...

I'M SENDIN' FOR EM TODAY, BOYS! MY WIFE AND DAUGHTER WILL BE COMIN' IN ON THE STAGECOACH THREE WEEKS FROM THIS VERY DAY—ALL THE WAY FROM PHILADELPHIA!

NOW THAT'S REAL INTERESTIN', AIN'T IT, MCGOON!



EDDIE MCGOON AND HORACE DAWSON WERE NEW TO THESE PARTS, BUT THAT WAS NOT WHY THEY DIDN'T CONGRATULATE THE HAPPY MINER... THEIR PROFESSION SET THEM APART. FROM THE LIFE AND PLEASURES OF HONEST MEN. EVEN NOW, AT THE SUGGESTION OF GOLD, THEIR EVIL MINDS WERE ALREADY AT WORK ON A SCHEME TO RELIEVE MR. LITTLE OF A LARGE PART OF HIS HARD-EARNED RICHES...

MR. DAWSON! I BELIEVE WE COULD USE SOME OF THAT GOLD MR. LITTLE REFERS TO...



THEN HEAR ME, MY FRIEND FOR I HAVE A PLAN THAT IS PERFECT: YOU HEARD THE MAN MENTION THE FACT THAT HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER WOULD BE ON THE STAGECOACH THREE WEEKS FROM TODAY! WELL, IT WOULD BE SIMPLE TO PS6688...

SPLENDID! MCGOON, SPLENDID! SUCH AN IDEA SHOULD NET US \$25,000 AT LEAST!



AGAIN... DRINK UP, MEN! DRINK TO THE HAPPIEST MAN IN THE WORLD! BARTENDER, ANOTHER ROUND FOR THE BOYS!

HEH, HEH! BETTER SAVE YOUR DOUGH, AUGUST C. LITTLE! YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT!



THREE WEEKS PASSED! THE STAGECOACH, ON TIME, WAS BEATING ITS DUSTY WAY ALONG THE SUN BAKED TRAIL TOWARDS INDIAN PASS. THE LAST LAP OF A LONG TWO WEEK JOURNEY THAT WAS BRINGING TOGETHER THE FAMILY OF AUGUST C. LITTLE... RIDING ALONG THE SAME TRAIL, UNITED STATES MARSHAL, BLACK DIAMOND AND HIS DEPUTY, BUMPER OVERTOKE THE STAGECOACH...

THERE SHE IS, BUMPER - RIGHT ON TIME!



HOWDY, BLACK DIAMOND! HOWDY JIM! HOWDY, FOLKS!

LOOK, MOMMY! REAL COWBOYS! THOSE GUNS ARE JUST FOR DECORATION, DEAR! I'M SURE THEY DON'T HAVE TO USE THEM!



OH, MOMMY, HOW FAST THEY RIDE! I'LL BET THEY'RE AFTER SOME REAL BAD MEN OR INJUNS OR SOMPIN'!



LATER...

HOWDY, MARSHAL! SEE ANYTHIN' OF THAT STAGECOACH ON YOUR WAY HERE?



RECKON THAT WAS YOUR WIFE AND LITTLE GIRL RIDING THE STAGE! WELL, YOU DON'T HAVE LONG TO WAIT NOW! WE PASSED IT TWO HOURS BACK!

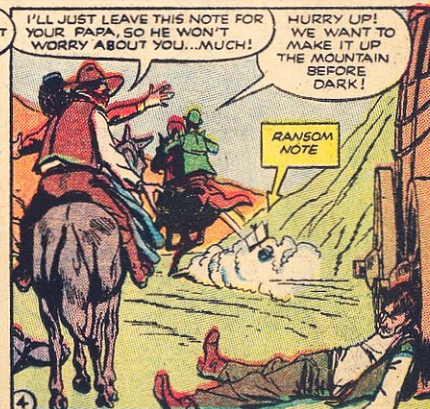
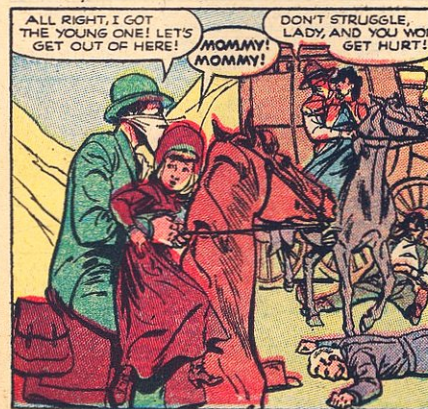
MEANWHILE...

HOW DOES THE SITUATION LOOK TO YOU, MCGOON?

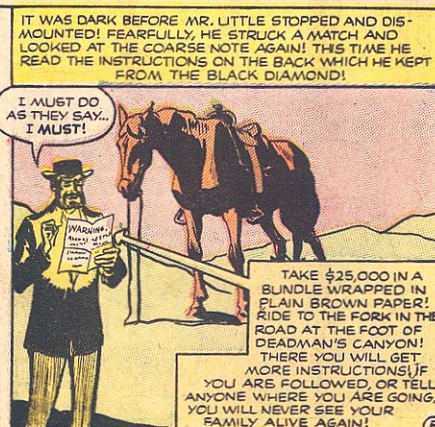
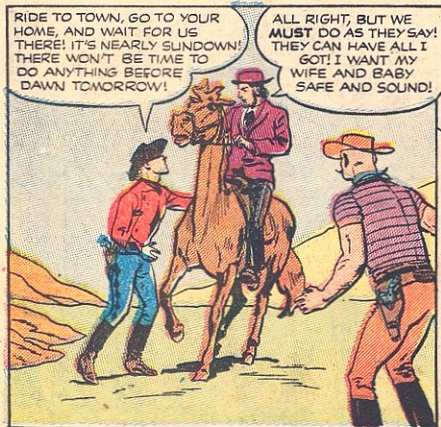
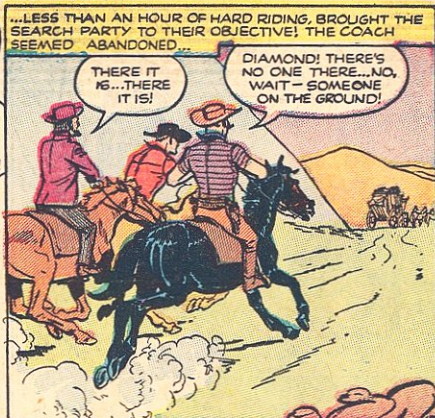
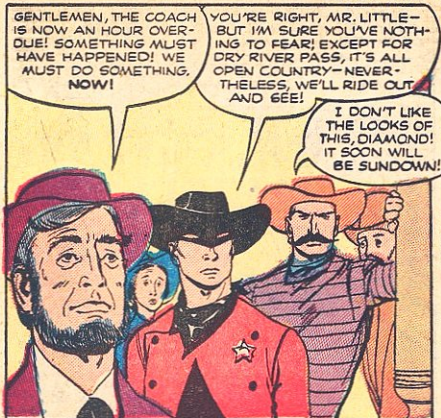


HERE THEY COME! WE'RE IN LUCK, DAWSON! THE DRIVER IS ALONE! LET'S GET TO OUR HORSES!





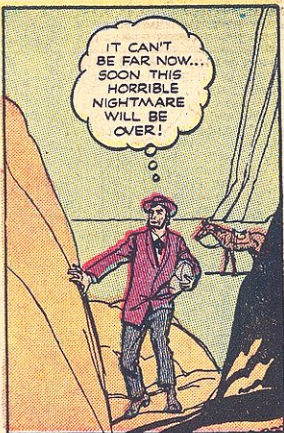
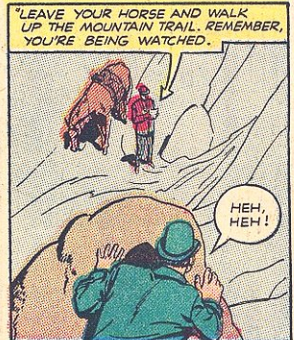




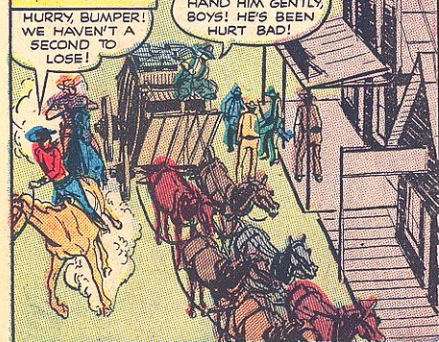




AT THE FIRST STREAK OF DAWN, THE TIRED AND DISTRAUGHT MR. LITTLE, CLUTCHING THE RANSOM MONEY, THE PRICE OF FREEDOM FOR HIS LOVED ONES, READ WITH GREAT ANXIETY, THE SECOND NOTE FROM THE KIDNAPPERS...



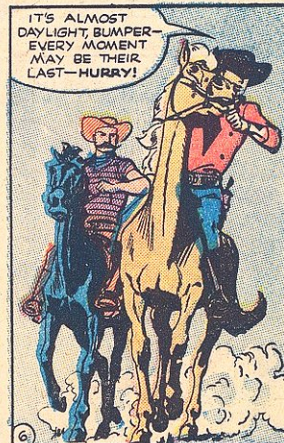
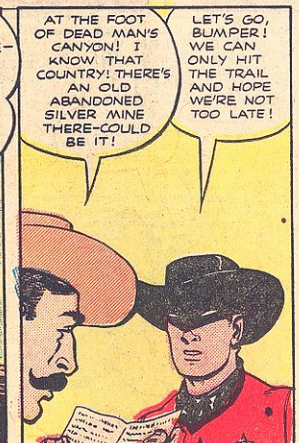
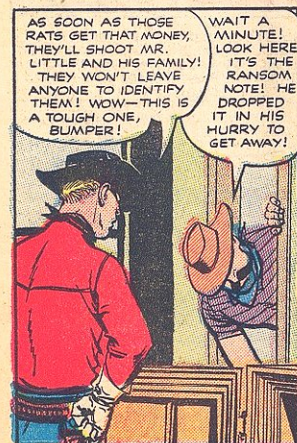
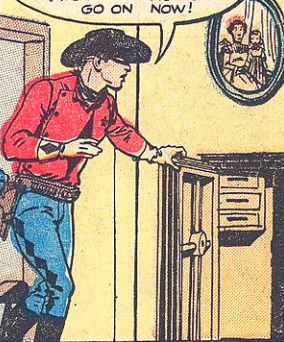
WHILE AUGUST LITTLE WAS MOVING CLOSER AND CLOSER TO CERTAIN DOOM BY IGNORING THE CAREFUL INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN HIM BY THE PEACE OFFICER, BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER WERE BUSY WITH THEIR END OF THE SCHEME...



LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN HERE, ALL RIGHT! THE DOOR WAS WIDE OPEN!



MORE THAN THAT, BUMPER—HE'S TAKEN ALL HIS MONEY AND GONE! THAT REALLY PUTS US IN A SPOT! WE HAVEN'T A THING TO GO ON NOW!

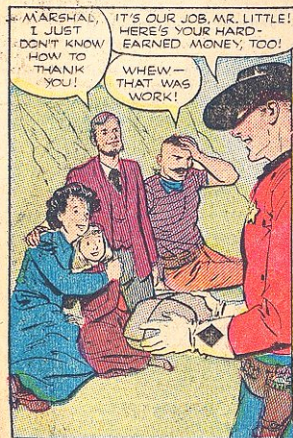
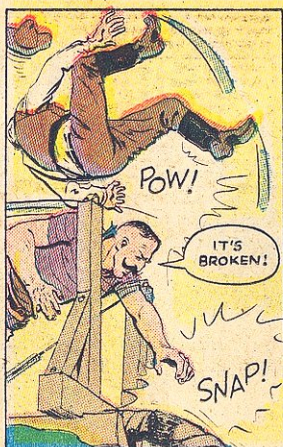




MEANWHILE, AT THE OLD SILVER MINE THAT BUMPER REMEMBERED... HIS SUSPICIONS WERE BEING FULFILLED...





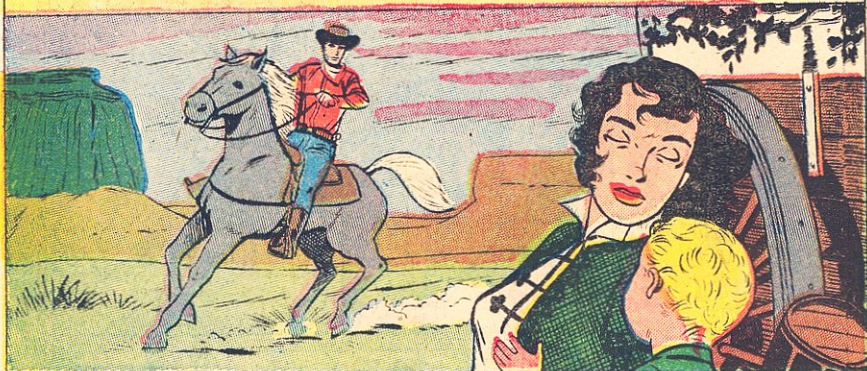


# DON'T MISS "THE RATTLESNAKE PIT"

IN THE NEXT  
ISSUE, WHEN  
THE BLACK  
DIAMOND  
AND  
BUMPER  
ARE FORCED  
TO SHOOT  
AT EACH  
OTHER!  
WHO WILL  
WIN??



# THE FACE IN THE LOCKET



The scouts arrived at the wagon train too late. The scene was a horror to behold, burning wagons, devastation and wholesale slaughter. The hopes of those pioneers had died in a moment on the long road toward the setting sun. The attack had surprised them; they were caught unprepared. This was all the scouts could surmise while regretfully surveying the shattered wagon train.

Mounting their horses, and turning their backs on the heartbreaking sight, the party of scouts started to ride back to their camp. Jennings, a grizzled old-timer, had a strange feeling. Somehow he felt that the train could not have been completely wiped out. Wholesale slaughter was not uncommon when these surprise Indian attacks occurred, but still he felt they should be sure. Though the sight was hard to bear, Jennings could not be satisfied to ride on. Silently he turned back and rode toward the scene of the slaughter.

The party of scouts rode on, not noticing that Jennings had dropped behind. Jennings approached the charred wagons, dismounted with a heavy heart and began methodically to search the remains of the wagon train. The fire had almost completely burned the entire train, wagons and equipment. He walked slowly around looking for some vestige of life, some hope. As he approached the last wagon, he noted that it had only partially burned. Looking through the charred opening, he saw a woman leaning against the side of the wagon and holding a child in her arms.

Hope returning, Jennings crawled into the wagon. As he approached the woman, he realized that all hope was unfounded. The heat of the fire and the smoke filled wagon had suffocated her and she sat there as if in a deep, contented sleep. As he leaned over, he noticed she wore a small gold locket. He reached to touch it just as a small, sleepy voice cried out. Jennings withdrew his hand quickly and looked in amazement at the child in the woman's arms.

The child's wide blue eyes were open. He

crawled from his mother's lap and stood on the charred floor of the wagon. He must be about two, thought Jennings, since he stands—and he must be able to walk. The sleepy boy, however, could not speak at first because of his sleepiness and the incomprehension of the stranger in the wagon. Jennings did learn that his name was Joey, but then the grim reality of the situation penetrated the child's mind and all he could do was stare with terror in his eyes.

Momentarily Jennings had forgotten the locket in his interest in the child. However, hoping it would hold a clue, he removed it and held the small heart shaped object in his hand. Jennings' clumsy fingers struggled with the catch, then finally the heart fell open as he touched it in just the proper way. The open locket in the palm of his hand showed a picture of a little boy on one side which Jennings immediately identified as Joey. On the other side was the smiling face of a dark haired girl, older than Joey. She resembled Joey, and Jennings wondered if this could be Joey's sister. If so, where was she?

Jennings took the boy by the hand and led him away to get the sight of the massacre from his eyes as soon as possible. Jennings left Joey with his horse and returned to scout the train for the missing girl. He went back to Joey's wagon to look for more identification, but everything had burned and there was no sign of the little girl. Jennings searched in vain and finally returned to the dumbfounded little boy who sat on the ground under the watchful eye of Jennings' horse.

Lifting the child to the saddle, Jennings then mounted, and off the two rode to the camp of the scouts. It was a long, hard ride, but the child stood it well. He seemed unable to understand what had happened; the whole tragedy was too overwhelming for him to comprehend. Finally, in spite of the roughness of the ride, his head drooped and he fell asleep.

It was dark when Jennings rode into camp. The child was welcomed into the fold, fed



and put into the most comfortable bunk for a long, exhausted sleep. While the boy slept, Jennings told the scouts how he had found Joey and told them about the locket. The solemn scouts passed the locket from hand to hand.

As one scout examined it, he suddenly said, "Jennings, did you notice the writing here on the outside?"

"No!" exclaimed Jennings, curiously and hopefully. "What does it say?"

"Not much," answered the scout as he held the locket to the firelight. "Just a name. 'Lydia.'"

The next morning when Joey awoke, he was a changed boy. He now talked a little and the scouts were able to determine more about his family. He asked about "Lydia" and they pieced his conversation together and decided Lydia was his sister and the picture in the locket must be of Lydia. They also assumed that Lydia was also Joey's mother's name. Beyond that information there was not much the two year old could give them.

Jennings and the boy became inseparable. Jennings, at first, thought he should leave the child with some rancher who could bring him up. But the scouts were far from any civilization when Joey was found, and by the time they reached an inhabited part of the west, Jennings was not willing to part with the child.

Joey grew and grew and before too many years he could almost out-ride any one of the scouts. He learned fast and loved the life they led. All memory of the wagon train disaster had vanished from his mind and he even called Jennings, "Dad".

Jennings put off, year by year, telling Joey of the massacre, and the days of Indian massacres were on the wane. Jennings no longer had to witness the devastating sights such as the one where he'd found Joey. Still one of the many duties of the scouts was to seek out the Indians and keep peace with them.

When Joey had reached eighteen, the major problem facing the scouts was an elusive band of Sioux Indians. These Indians did not kill and loot as before but were nomadic and not unwilling to steal a cow or a lamb or a chicken if the need arose. No one had been able to catch them in the act and no one had ever seen any of them closely. There were rumors that there was a fair-skinned brave among them.

As the scouts pursued the nomads, it took them far from civilization. They followed their trail of petty thievery for many hundred miles. Soon the incidence of their presence led the scouts to believe they were close on the trail. The rumor of the fair-skinned brave continued, but this was not uncommon. There were half-breeds among the whites as well as among the Indians.

One day as Joey and Jennings rode along a rocky trail, Joey's horse shied suddenly. Joey immediately sensed something amiss and reined in his horse. He looked to left and right and thought he saw a fleeting motion behind a rock, as if a head had suddenly ducked down out of sight. Silently, Joey dismounted and crept toward the rock, his gun held in readiness. As he reached the rock, he climbed up to peer over the edge. As he peered over, he saw the slight figure of an Indian pressed tightly against the wall of the

rock. It was as he had figured — the Indian could have moved from the spot without being seen so he was still there, standing motionless. Joey jumped from the rock down to where the Indian was standing, keeping the Indian covered. The Indian still stood motionless. Joey stood in front of the Indian and looked aghast. This was an Indian, or was it, he thought. The hair was dark, pulled straight back but the skin was fair. The figure was slight and much shorter than most Indians, but the clothes, the bare feet, were typical.

Joey had no intention of firing. He merely wanted to keep peace with the Indians and he felt that this one might be one of the nomads. Keeping the Indian covered, Joey started to speak first in English. The Indian looked completely blank as if he understood nothing. Then Joey tried a word or two in Sioux and a glimmer of understanding passed over the fair face. The Indian seemed frightened and unwilling to talk. Joey finally led him at point of gun back to where he had left Jennings.

Jennings was an old hand at dealing with the Indians and Joey knew he could get some information from this frightened Sioux. As Joey and the Indian approached Jennings, Joey had never seen Jennings look so strange. He turned pale and looked ill. He opened his mouth to speak and could not utter a sound. Finally, he regained composure and spoke to the Indian. The Indian did not comprehend the English words. Jennings then spoke in Sioux and to Joey's surprise Jennings' first question was, "What do they call you?"

"Leedee", answered the frightened Indian. Jennings said no more except, "Do not be frightened. Come with us."

The Indian made a move to run, but Joey quickly aimed the gun and the Indian tried no further move to escape.

Joey made no sense out of the whole procedure until later that evening after Jennings had spent hours with the captured Indian. Jennings finally came to the campfire, sat by Joey's side and related his story.

"Joey, that is no Indian, nor is it a man. That Indian is Lydia, your sister."

"I didn't know I had a sister," gasped Joey.

"I was going to tell you the whole story soon. I was waiting until you were old enough to comprehend the tragedy. We all thought Lydia had died with your mother and father, but apparently she was carried off with the Indians and grew up with them. And, of course, she soon forgot the past and thought she was a full-fledged Sioux. She's been with the nomads and now, after a while, she'll be able to lead us to them. She can make them understand that we want peace and we'll give them land. But, in the meantime, we have to teach her the ways of the white men."

At this point in the conversation Joey heard a noise behind him. It was Lydia, still dressed in Indian clothes. She held out her hand to him and whispered in Sioux, "brother Joey."

Joey grasped her hand, then turned to Jennings. "I'll take on her education right now. You've given her a good start, now it won't take long." Joey turned again to Lydia, pointed to Jennings and said, "Dad."

"Dad" said Lydia, smiling as she held her hand toward Jennings.

THE END



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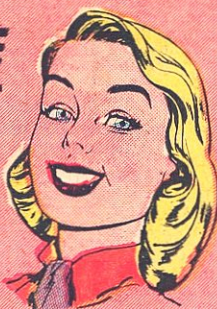
It's the newest, most exciting way straight to a man's heart!

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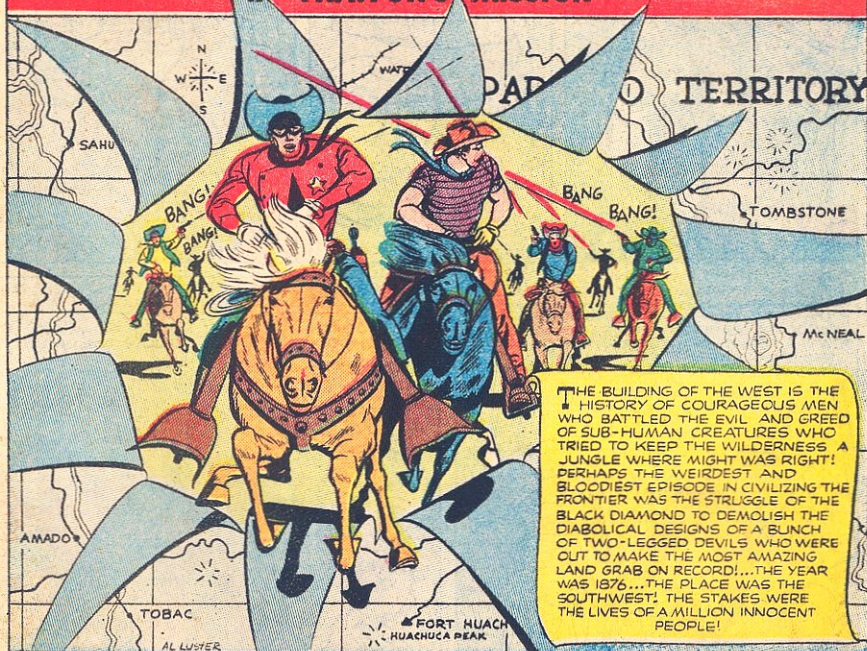
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# BLACK DIAMOND

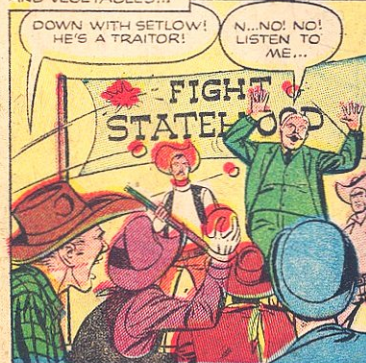
in "TRAITOR'S MISSION"



THE BUILDING OF THE WEST IS THE HISTORY OF COURAGEOUS MEN WHO BATTLED THE EVIL AND GREED OF SUB-HUMAN CREATURES WHO TRIED TO KEEP THE WILDERNESS A JUNGLE WHERE MIGHT WAS RIGHT! PERHAPS THE WILDEST AND BLOODIEST EPISODE IN CIVILIZING THE FRONTIER WAS THE STRUGGLE OF THE BLACK DIAMOND TO DEMOLISH THE DIABOLICAL DESIGNS OF A BUNCH OF TWO-LEGGED DEVILS WHO WERE OUT TO MAKE THE MOST AMAZING LAND GRAB ON RECORD!...THE YEAR WAS 1876...THE PLACE WAS THE SOUTHWEST! THE STAKES WERE THE LIVES OF A MILLION INNOCENT PEOPLE!

ONE OF THE STRANGEST SIGHTS IN THE SOUTHWEST IN THE YEAR 1876 WAS THE SIGHT OF JOHN SETLOW—"HONEST JOHN." THEY CALLED HIM—STANDING ON THE SPEAKERS PLATFORM... DODGING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES...

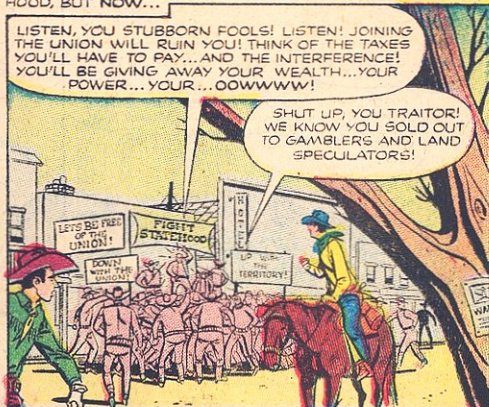
SETLOW, ONE OF THE RICHEST AND MOST HONEST MEN IN THE TERRITORY, HAD ALWAYS STOOD FOR EVENTUAL STATEHOOD, BUT NOW...



DOWN WITH SETLOW!  
HE'S A TRAITOR!

N...NO! NO!  
LISTEN TO  
ME...

LISTEN, YOU STUBBORN FOOLS! LISTEN! JOINING THE UNION WILL RUIN YOU! THINK OF THE TAXES YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY...AND THE INTERFERENCE! YOU'LL BE GIVING AWAY YOUR WEALTH...YOUR POWER...YOUR...OOOWWWW!



SHUT UP, YOU TRAITOR!  
WE KNOW YOU SOLD OUT  
TO GAMBLERS AND LAND  
SPECULATORS!



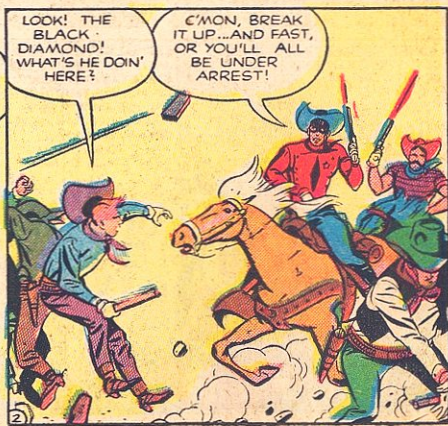
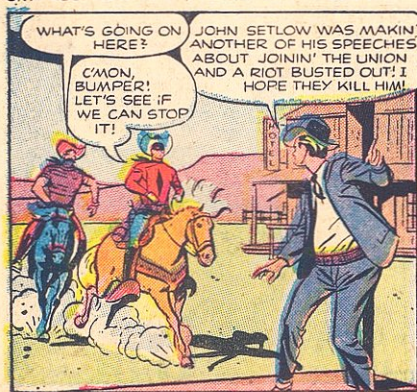
# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



A MINUTE LATER, THE TOWN SQUARE WAS FILLED WITH FLYING BRICKBATS, STONES AND STRUGGLING MEN...

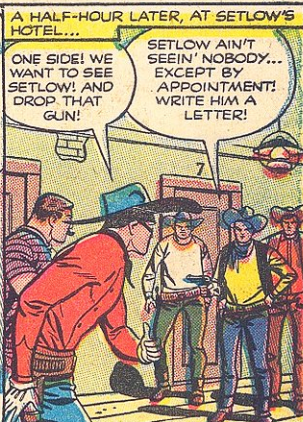
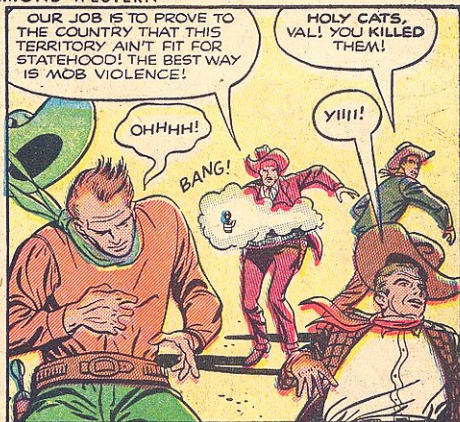


AT THAT MOMENT, BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER, ON A ROUTINE MISSION, APPROACH THE SCENE...



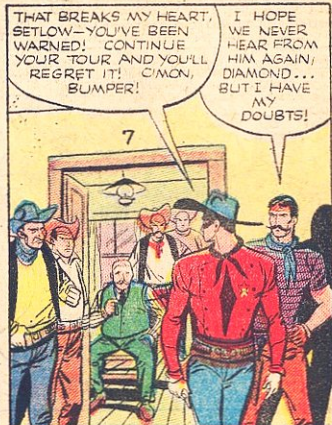


# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

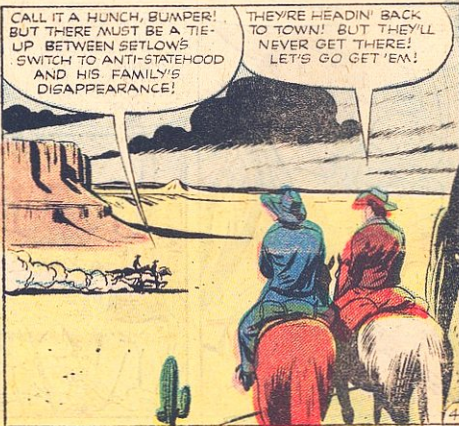
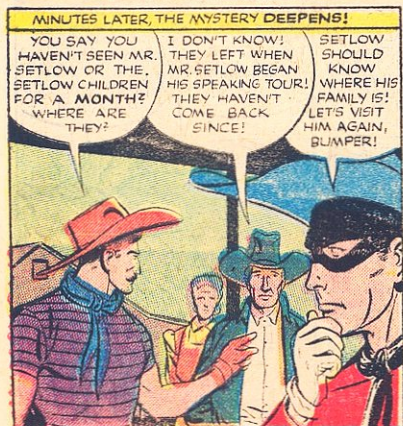
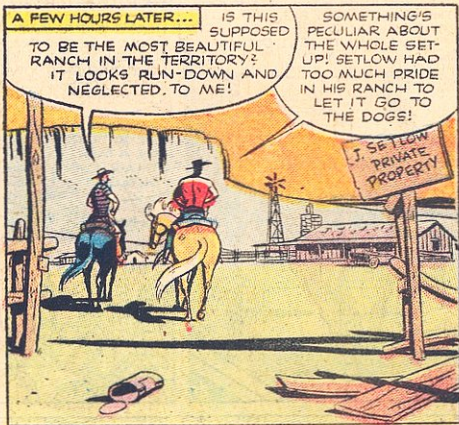




# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



AS BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER LEAVE, SETLOW GIVES ORDERS TO FOLLOW THEM AND MAKE SURE THAT THEY DON'T RETURN...





# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

BUT THE SPEED OF RELIAPON AND EL LOBO WAS TOO MUCH FOR SETLOW'S RENEGADES AND BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER EASILY REACHED THEIR DESTINATION!

EVENING, SETLOW: I HOPE SEEING US AGAIN DOESN'T GIVE YOU INDIGNATION!

IT SURE DOES! IVE SAID I ALL I HAVE TO SAY TO YOU!

NOT QUITE! WHERE'S YOUR WIFE, SETLOW? WHERE ARE YOUR SON AND DAUGHTER? THEYVE DISAPPEARED!



THEY HAVE NOT DISAPPEARED! THEYVE GONE ON A VACATION! LET ME ALONE! I RESENT BEING HOUNDED! IVE DONE NOTHING WRONG!



THEN WHY GET SO EXCITED? WHY FLY OFF THE HANDLE? YOU ACT LIKE A SICK MAN, SETLOW!



ALL RIGHT, THEN! I AM SICK! SICK AND TIRED OF YOUR INSOLENT QUESTIONS AND ETERNAL MEDDLING! NOW PUT ME IN JAIL FOR BEING SICK!



WHEN THE TIME COMES FOR PUTTING ANYBODY IN JAIL SETLOW, I'LL BE JOHNNY-ON-THE-SPOT! MEANWHILE, I INTEND TO FIND YOUR WIFE! SHE MIGHT ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS THAT YOU WON'T! SEE YOU LATER! LETS GO, BUMPER!



HERE THEY COME NOW! SPLIT UP AN! WE'LL CATCH 'EM IN A CROSS-FIRE! WE'RE LICKED IF THET TIN STARS TOES AIN'T CURLED UP!

WE'LL GET 'EM, VAL! DON'T WORRY!



MOMENTS LATER, AS BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER APPROACH THE STABLE...

BUMPER, I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THESE HOMBERS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE STREET! THEY'RE WATCHING US TOO CLOSELY! SOMETHING'S UP!

HMM... COULD BE SOME BODY WANTS TO DROP YOUR INVESTIGATION BY DROPPING YOU!



OKAY, GUYS! BLAST 'EM!



YOU WERE RIGHT, BUMPER! LET 'EM HAVE IT!



KEEP IT UP, BUMPER! THEY CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE!



OKAY, NOW-CHARGE!

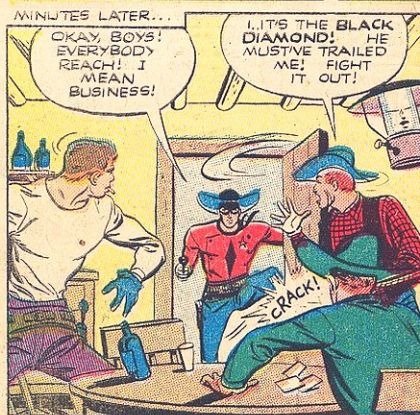
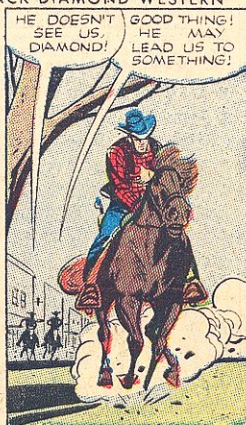


RUN! RUN! THEY'RE TOO FAST FOR US!





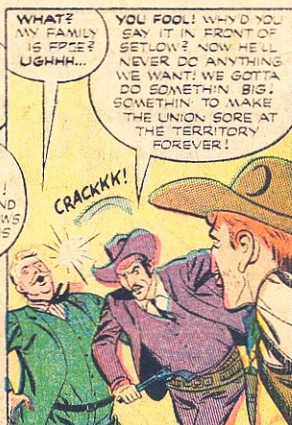
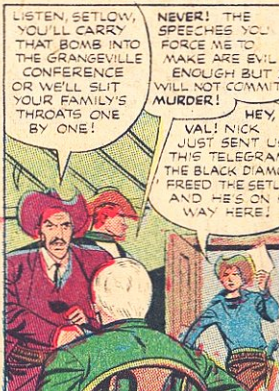
# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN





# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

THE FOLLOWING MORNING  
IN GRANGEVILLE...





# CAN **YOU** NAME ALL THE GLEASON-BIRO-WOOD COMICS?

## GIANT CONTEST! WIN CASH!

AT LAST — THE CONTEST THAT EVERYONE CAN  
ENTER AND WILL SURELY WANT TO!

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**\$ 5 SECOND PRIZE**

**TWENTY \$2 PRIZES**

PLENTY OF CHANCES TO WIN A PRIZE! WILL  
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THINGS TO DO —

- 1 — NAME ALL THE GLEASON-BIRO-WOOD  
COMICS.
- 2 — IN FIFTY WORDS OR LESS, TELL US WHICH  
ONE YOU LIKE THE BEST AND WHY.

That is all you have to do. Contest closes October  
20th. The editors will be the sole judges. In case  
of ties, duplicate prizes will be awarded. Send  
entries to **LEV GLEASON COMICS, CON-  
TEST EDITORS, 114 EAST 32nd STREET,  
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**WATCH FOR THIS SEAL!**

### BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN





# MUSICAL DOLLS



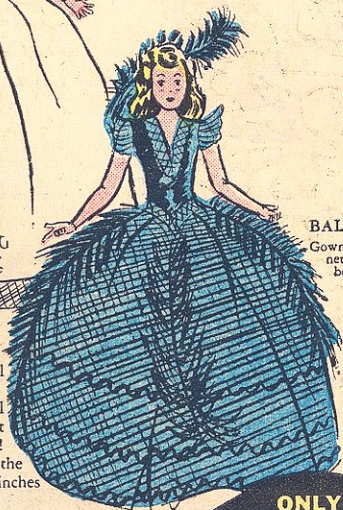
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GIRL**

Beautifully gowned in traditional French costume, carrying a basket of flowers. She plays "La Vie en Rose."



**BRIDAL DOLL**

A gleaming gorgeous costume of fine white satin, flowing veil and Lily of the Valley bouquet. Plays Bridal March. Beautiful decoration for wedding, shower table or home.



**BALLERINA**

Gowned in satin, net and marabou. Turns, as if dancing, to the tune "Dance Ballerina Dance."

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How To Interest Someone in You ... Get Dates ... Win His or Her Love ... Become the "One and Only" ... "Make up" After a Quarrel ... Express Your Love ... Hold Your Sweetheart ... Be a Personality ... Improve Your Conversation, Looks, Manners ... Overcome Inferiority ... and many more topics.

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- How to Make Everyday Events Sound Interesting
- How to Make Your Sweetheart Write More Often
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- How to Make (or Break) a Date
- How to Acknowledge a Gift
- How to "Make Up"
- How to Say "Those Little Things"
- How to Assure Him (or Her) of Your Faithfulness
- How to Make Him (or Her) Miss You
- How to Propose by Letter



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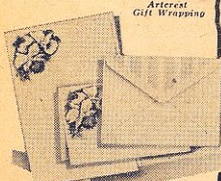
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In Spare Time . . . Without Taking A Job or  
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10 Orders in  
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"I received these ten orders in about 30 minutes. Everybody just 'oh'd' and 'ah'd' over the cards. It's going to be very easy and enjoyable."—Rita J. Shiao, New York

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Fine Spare-Time  
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"Worked two hours a day for six days; have orders for 185 boxes." (profit: \$32.50)—Mrs. Wm. Koepka, Pa.

One Day's Sales Reach \$65

"Sales for one day as high as \$65.00 (Profit: \$32.50) in a few hours of calls."—Marion Dawson, Maryland



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for  
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If your church, club or organization needs money and wants a quick easy way to raise funds all year 'round—write us, giving your name, the name and address of your organization, and name of person in charge of fund-raising. By return mail we will send our valuable guide for groups, "The Doehla Money-Raising Plan," together with sample kit, on approval.

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this big 15"  
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just did

When I enrolled I was a skinny, sick weakling. I was shy with girls because I had nothing to show off. A few weeks after starting the Jowett Course my body was the best in the neighborhood. Now I get respect and admiration from every fellow and girl I meet.

*Roger D. Hirsch*

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was an  
112 lb.  
6 ft.  
weakling  
**LOOK AT HIM NOW!**



Aren't **YOU** as **SICK** and Tired as I was  
of being **SKINNY** ?

CHICKEN-CHESTED  
SPINDLE-ARMED  
NARROW-SHOULDERED  
SHORT-WINDED  
WEAK, HALF-ALIVE  
JEERED, BULLIED

There's that  
skinny scarecrow  
**ROGER**. Let's  
pass him by!



**Then do as I did...  
MAIL THE COUPON BELOW**

**I gained 53 lbs. of mighty muscle  
I added 6½ inches to my CHEST  
3 inches to each ARM**

**And the rest in proportion —  
ALL IN A FEW SHORT WEEKS  
by using the JOWETT SYSTEM**

**for building Real HE-MEN**

Come on, PAL, Now **YOU** give me  
**10** pleasant Minutes a Day  
in your own home... and I'll  
give **YOU** a **NEW HE-MAN BODY**  
for your **OLD SKELETON FRAME**.

says **GEORGE F. JOWETT**  
**World's Greatest Builder of HE-MEN**

**NO!** I don't care how skinny or flabby you are; if you're a teen-ager, in your 20's or 30's or over; if you're short or tall, or what work you do. All I want is **JUST 10 EXCITING MINUTES** in your home to **MAKE YOU OVER by the SAME METHOD** I turned myself from a wreck to a Champion of Champions.

**YES!** You'll see **INCH upon INCH** of **MIGHTY MUSCLE** added to your **ARMS**. Your **CHEST** deepened. Your **BACK** and **SHOULDERS** broadened. From head to heels, you'll gain **SOLIDITY, SIZE, POWER, SPEED!** You'll become an **ALL-AROUND, ALL-AMERICAN HE-MAN, a WINNER** in everything you tackle—or my Training won't cost you one solitary cent!

George F. Jowett  
"Whom experts  
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AND BUILD HOW HIM GAINED  
THOSE STRIPES**



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Friend, I've traveled the world. Made a **LIFETIME STUDY** of every way known to develop your body. Then I devised the **BEST BY TEST, MY "5-WAY PROGRESSIVE POWER"** the only method that builds you **SWAYS fast**. You save **YEARS, DOLLARS** like movie star Tom Tyler did. Like Champ Roger Hirsch did. Like **MANY THOUSANDS** like you did. **SO...**

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LET ME MAKE YOU A WINNER  
IN EVERY WALK OF LIFE**



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